



CHINA – TRADITION & INNOVATION
Ehrengast 2009 · Frankfurter Buchmesse
Guest of Honour 2009 · Frankfurt Book Fair

Famous Chinese at the Frankfurt Book Fair

During the Frankfurt Book Fair a great number of Chinese cultural stars will be gathered together. More than twenty academics, 160 writers, more than 100 musical performers, 30 Peking opera players and 11 intangible cultural heritage practitioners will participate in a series of professional exchange activities, literary events, cultural performances and cultural displays, giving the people of Germany and other European countries a glimpse of the charm and accomplishments of modern China. Below, the China Guest of Honor events committee will introduce ten of these cultural stars (in alphabetical order).

DILBER

DILBER reputed as Chinese nightingale is a lyric soprano with coloratura technique cultivated by Chinese music educators. She has held hundreds of recitals in dozens of countries, played leading parts in dozens of operas and cooperated with many world famed conductors and symphony orchestras. She has acted as “Gilda” in *Rigoletto* by Verdi, “Oscar” in *Masquerade*, “Lucia” in *Lucia di Lammermoor* by Donizetti and “Mary” in *Daughter of Army*. In 1988 DILBER was engaged by Finland National Opera House as soloist. From 1993 to 1996 she was engaged by German Bonn National Opera House as soloist. Now she is a permanent soloist in Finland National Opera House and Sweden Malmo Opera House. In recent years DILBER has recorded many albums and full-length operas. In 1997 and 1998 Dilber was consecutively awarded Brigit Nilsson Prize for the best opera singer in Sweden.

LANG Lang

At the age of only eleven years, LANG Lang was awarded first place in the Fourth International Young Pianists' Competition in Germany and won the Award of Outstanding Artistic Performance. At 13 years of age he won first place at the 2nd Tchaikovsky International Young Musicians' Competition in Japan. In the same year he was invited to cooperate with the newly founded China National Symphony Orchestra and played solo at the opening ceremony concert. At the age of 14 he was admitted into Curtis Institute and began studies with Gary Graffman a master musician and also president of the institute. Three months later Lang signed with the internationally famed entertainment agency IMG and since started his career as a professional performer. Two years later he signed with the German-based DG Records a subsidiary of the world-famous Universal Music and became one of the most valued artists. In 1999 the 17-year-old musician played Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No.1 with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in place of the sick André Watts at Ravinia Music Festival.

Mediacontact

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LANG's bold and enthusiastic performances make him a messenger between classical music and the youth. "My dream is to see everybody in the street is familiar with classical music in 20 years," he said. In 2002 at the 150th anniversary of Steinway Piano Co. Ltd LANG was awarded the first Gold Medal of Arts by this company. In 2003 the famous American magazine *Teenpeople* listed "20 Young Persons Who Will Change the World" among whom LANG is the only artist.

In May 2004 LANG was appointed as goodwill ambassador of UNICEF at New York and visited Africa in August. He was the first pianist holding this position and the youngest one. In October 2004 LANG was honored as Mr. Phonograph Music of Germany. In November of the same year the Governor of Pennsylvania awarded him *Mr. Music of 2004*. On January 27th 2006 at Mozart's 250th birthday LANG played Mozart's Piano Concerto in C Minor (K491) at Great Hall of the People in Beijing. On June 6th of the same year he played with three Bavarian symphony orchestras *Domingo* and *Diana Damrau* for the Opening Ceremony of World Cup ("Three Orchestras and Superstars"). LANG made new attempts to record for Chinese piano works like *Yellow River Concerto* winning unanimous praise in 2006. On June 5th LANG played as Chinese envoy at the Opening Ceremony of the FIFA World Cup in Germany at the Olympic Stadium in Munich. On August 8th 2008 LANG was invited to play at the Opening Ceremony of the 2008 Olympic Games.

LIN Yifu

LIN Yifu was born in Yilan County, Taiwan in 1952. His native place is Zhangzhou, Fujian Province. He is a famous economist, former Director of Peking University's China Center for Economic Research, professor, doctoral advisor, Committee Member of the seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth CPPCC National Committee, Vice Chairman of the Commission of the CPPCC Economic Committee, Vice Chairman of China National Industry & Commerce Union and was chosen academician of The Third World Academy of Sciences in 2005. He is now the Chief Economist and Senior Vice President of the World Bank in charge of economics of development. Fields of research: economics for development, agricultural economics and institutional economics. As a Chief Economist of the World Bank, who plays an important role to make decisions in sketching research projects and charting direction for development, LIN's taking out the position will further change the relationship between the World Bank and China. LIN is the first Chinese to obtain such a high position in the World Bank or International Monetary Fund.

TIE Ning

Now chairwoman of the National Writers Association, TIE Ning was first known as a novelist whose portraits of women's lives gave readers a new way of understanding the interior lives of women and their place in Chinese society. Her novels including *A Bathing Woman* and *The Rose Door* pioneered narrative techniques such as interiority and group protagonists. But more than representing milestones in the development of Chinese literature her works reflect the new burgeoning self-awareness of China's reading public. TIE Ning's fiction has been translated into more than ten languages and films made from her works have won awards both inside China and abroad.

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WANG Meng

WANG Meng is generally considered the elder statesman of Chinese literature. Born in Beijing in 1934 he began his literary career with the novel *Long Live Youth*, published in 1953. He is the author of ten novels and numerous collections of short fiction, novellas, essays and art criticism and has held many positions at universities, literary academies and the Writers Association. WANG even became Minister of Culture for three years. The subjects of his fiction are diverse from the revolution and birth of the new China to the ethnic minorities of the west. He fostered literary techniques and styles such as stream of consciousness, and was instrumental in turning Chinese literature away from Soviet socialist realism and towards a more modern path.

YANG Lan

YANG Lan is a senior media professional, founder of Sun Media Investment Holdings Ltd. and Chair of the Board of Sun Culture Foundation. In 1990 Yang received her B.A. Degree in English from Beijing Foreign Studies University. From 1990 to 1994 she was the hostess of Zhengda Variety Show on China Central Television. She won the 1st Golden Mike Award for hosts in China in 1994. Subsequently, Yang went to the U.S. to study at School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University and earned her Master Degree in International Affairs. From 1998 to 1999 Yang worked for Hong Kong Phoenix Satellite Television Chinese Channel and started a celebrity interview show *Yang Lan One on One* being its producer and hostess. In 2000 Yang founded the first history & culture satellite channel in China – Sun Television Cybernetworks. In 2001 YANG served as a goodwill ambassador for the 2008 Beijing Olympic bid and later in July as a speaker on the culture theme at the presentation to IOC in Moscow. Since March 2003 YANG has become a member of the 10th National Committee of CPPCC. In 2005 YANG began to host a talk show for Chinese urban women called *Her Village*.

YU Dan

Yu Dan is professor and doctoral advisor of Beijing Normal University, Vice President of School of Art and Media .She has published various books such as *Image, Brand and Competitiveness* and written many essays on significant academic publications. She is also a renowned designer and writer for film and television, designed 50-plus TV programs such as CCTV's *Oriental Horizon*, *Legal Report* and *Artist's Life*. She is currently the General Consultant to CCTV's news channel and channel of science and education and also Chief Consultant for plotting and designing in Beijing TV Station. Her interpretations of *The Analects and CHUANG tzu* broadcast successively on CCTV's *Lecture Room* since October 2006 were well received nationwide. Her interpretation of *Opera Kunqu* broadcast on CCTV 3's *Cultural Interview* for seven consecutive days during the National Day Vacation in 2007 once again won applause for her. She is a miracle in the China's publication history: 12.600 copies of her *Review of The Analects* were sold on the first day of its release and so far 4.6 million copies of the book have been sold When she attended important international book fairs held in such places as Singapore and Hong Kong with her works she was well welcomed by overseas readers. She was even received by Japanese Prime Minister Fukuda Yasuo when she attended the release conference for the Japanese version of her *Review of the Analects* in January 2008.

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YU Kuizhi

Among all the *wenwu laosheng* (middle-aged or old male role in Beijing Opera specializing in both singing and martial arts) performers, YU Kuizhi is regarded as having the best box-office appeal. He is the head of Troupe II in China Beijing Opera House, national first-class actor and winner of the Plum Blossom Award and the Mei Lanfang Gold Award.

YU Kuizhi was born in Shenyang in 1961. He began learning opera since the age of ten and at 13 he acted leading parts hundred times in a modern Beijing Opera called *Song of Big Scull (Da Lu Ge)*. At the age of 16 thanks to his prominent performance YU was admitted to the National Academy of Chinese Theatre Arts, one of the only two *laosheng* learners recruited that year. After graduation with straight-A he joined Troupe I of the China Beijing Opera House where he was tutored by master performers like YUAN Shihai, LI Shiji and SUN Yue. YU learned from the schools of YU, YANG and LI Shaochun and gradually developed his own style singing high and low notes with great ease. His voice is clarion, strong and charming. His signature pieces include *Forge Gold Brick (Da Jin Zhuan)*, *General and Premier Make Up (Jiang Xiang He)*, *Stratagem of Black Basin (Wu Pen Ji)*, *Story of Bandits (Xiang Ma Zhuan)*, *Wild Boar Woods (Ye Zhu Lin)*, *Heroic Story of Yue Fei (Man Jiang Hong)* and *Da-Tan-Er (also called Dragon and Phoenix Pavilion)*.

In recent years YU and his colleagues have often performed in Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macao, Europe and America. In June 1996 he led a group of actors to Hawaii to celebrate General Zhang Xueliang's birthday which was strongly welcome. In January 2004 YU and LI Shengsu brought the Beijing Opera to the Golden Hall in the "Capital of Music": Vienna.

ZHANG Yushu

ZHANG Yushu was born on April, the 7th 1934 in Shanghai/China. From 1953 to 1957 he studied German Literature at the German Department of the Beijing-University. There he was assistant professor from 1957 to 1978. Between 1978 and 1984 he was lecturer and held a chair at the German Department of Beijing-University. In 1984 he became member of the Chinese Writers' Association. From 1994 to 2004 he worked as a full-professor with the authority of advising doctoral candidates at the German Department of Beijing-University. Since 1982 he is vice-chairman of Chinese Association for Germanic Studies and since 1991 he is member of the board of trustees of German-East Asian Forum of Sciences and Humanities in Tübingen/Germany. From 1991 to 1993 he was guest-professor at the University of Bayreuth/Germany. In 1999 he became board member of International Stefan Zweig Gesellschaft. In 2000 he founded and since then was editor-in-chief of the „Literaturstrasse“, the Chinese-German yearbook for language, literature and culture. He also became honorary doctor of the University Tübingen, Germany in 2002. Since 2004 he is professor emeritus. In the year 2007 he founded the „German Literature and Literature-Criticism“, a Yearbook of translation of the German literature from German into Chinese with criticism.

ZHAO Qizheng

ZHAO Qizheng was born in Beijing in January 1940. He began to work in 1963 and joined the CPC in 1979. He is an expert on nuclear industry, researcher and senior engineer. From 1984 he held a series of leading positions in Shanghai Municipal Government such as Vice Mayor and Governor of Shanghai Pudong New Area. He was appointed as Minister of the State Council Information Office

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of China in 1998. Now he is the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the CPPCC. His publications include: *Riverside Talks*(coauthored with Dr. Luis Palau), *Shanghai Pudong Miracle*, *Presenting China to the World*, *America& Americans Through Chinese Eyes*, *One world: Bridging the Communication Gap*, etc.

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